

March 2003

### **Information Update from the Office of the Chief, Navy Medical Corps**

The following information is submitted for your information. Additional information can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Chief, Medical Corps (202-762-3060/3063/3062/ DSN: 762-3060/3063/3062). Please disseminate this information as widely as possible.

1. Deployment and Specialty Board Examinations (BUMED INST 1500.18A) - Many of the specialty boards will make accommodations for deployed personnel. Such individuals should contact their specialty boards as soon as they are aware they will be deployed during the time of the examination to negotiate alternatives.
2. Funding of Specialty Board Examinations - NMETC will fund specialty and sub-specialty boards for American Board of Medical Specialists authorized examinations (first attempt only) and re-certification examinations. The NMETC MC Board/CME Funding Coordinator is responsible for managing all requests for Board funding. Requests should be received by NMETC no later than 6 weeks prior to the Board. Requests received less than 6 weeks in advance will result in payment of only Board fees (no travel or per diem). Point of contact is 301-295-0649/DSN: 295-0649; FAX: 301-295-6113.
3. Attached to this e-mail is a new and improved, unauthorized Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Calculator created by a doctor at NH Rota. The instructions are located on the spreadsheets. It is a helpful tool to choose the right percentages of pays and bonuses to achieve individual TSP goals.
4. JCAHO Tips - Did you know that HSO puts out new JCAHO information in a section called "JCAHO Tips" on the TRI HSO homepage? Go to <http://nhso.med.navy.mil> and click on "Provider Tools" on the left hand side of the page, then "JCAHO Tips" to find out the latest.
5. GME MOUs - All facilities participating in GME with other institutions MUST use a standard MOU agreement. If there is a desire to change the language in the standard agreement, it must be approved by BUMED JAG first. Point of Contact at BUMED JAG is 202-762-3089.
6. GME and Outside Institutions - All military personnel participating in training at a civilian institution MUST have TAD or PCS orders to the institution AND there must be an MOU on file with the institution. If these are not in place before an individual participates in training, they will be personally responsible if a malpractice suit occurs during their training.
7. Interns and USMLE/COMLEX - All interns should be scheduled to take USMLE Part III before the end of March. Successful completion of USMLE Parts I, II, and II is required in order to be eligible for Additional Special Pay (ASP.) Interns are encouraged to obtain a medical license as soon as possible so that they may practice independently once graduated from internship.

8. ACGME approves final duty hours language - At its February meeting in Chicago, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) approved final duty hours language, effective July 2003, for incorporation into the Common Program Requirements. Following are the three sections that were revised at the meeting (revised text shown):

IV.D.2.d Adequate time for rest and personal activities must be provided. This should consist of a 10 hour time period provided between all daily duty periods and after in-house call.

IV.D.3.b **Continuous on-site duty, including in-house call, must not exceed 24 consecutive hours.** Residents **may remain on duty for up to 6 additional hours to participate in didactic activities, transfer care of patients, conduct outpatient clinics,** and maintain continuity of medical and surgical care as defined in Specialty and Subspecialty Program Requirements.

IV.D.3.c No new patients, as defined in Specialty and Subspecialty Program Requirements, may be accepted after 24 hours of continuous duty.

9. Pay Problems: You are going to get tired of me saying this, but it is very important! Please remind your staff, especially those serving as sponsors for individuals newly reporting for duty in the Navy, that in order to establish a new pay record the following must be received at BUPERS Code 822:
  - a. Officer's Oath of Office form (the form they sign to accept their rank) for their current rank and for their rank as an Ensign if coming from an HPSP or USUHS accession program.
  - b. G-02 Form (this is a form that PSD initiates which essentially says that the officer has checked on board).
  - c. Copy of the officer's DD-214 (Discharge Paper) if the officer had prior active duty service.

The above documents must be faxed to BUPERS Code 822 at 901-874-2622.

Please ensure that there are current contact numbers and/or e-mail address(es) to contact the officer should there be any questions by the BUPERS staff. The Point of Contact BUPERS for questions at 901-874-3241/ DSN: 882-3241.